

Annual Report

Our Mission

Making out-of-school STEM opportunities a reality for millions of young people to help them thrive in STEM and beyond.



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A Note from the Executive Director

Reflecting on 2023, I am both inspired by and grateful for what we have accomplished together. This year marked a milestone in our journey to expand high-quality STEM learning opportunities through out-of-school-time programs.

Thanks to the unwavering commitment of our funders, partners and educators, we reached 1.15 million youth—570,000 of whom were girls—with hands-on STEM experiences through our signature Million Girls Moonshot initiative. The impact has been profound, with countless stories of young people discovering their passion for and sense of belonging in STEM.



The data tells a clear story: investing in out-of-school-time STEM works. Girls who participated in Moonshot-connected programs expressed increased interest in STEM careers—a powerful testament to the importance of creating inclusive and engaging environments. In its first three years of implementation, the Million Girls Moonshot initiative reached more than 4.3 million young people, surpassing our initial goals and proving that a bold vision can drive real change.

In 2023, our youth-led Flight Crew cohort expanded to 44 girls representing 38 states.

These young leaders, aged 13-18, are not only advocating for STEM but also mentoring the next generation. Their commitment and voices are strengthening our movement and showing peers that STEM is for everyone.

We also grew our STEM Next Opportunity Fellows program to a record 13 individuals who were on loan to federal agencies adding expert capacity around afterschool, summer learning and STEM education and workforce development. These individuals worked on signature initiatives designed to leverage federal resources and funds to support out-of-school-time STEM, like Engage Every Student, the National Partnership for Student Success, and You Belong in STEM.

This success is only the beginning. Together, we are not just teaching STEM—we are opening doors and building a future where every young person has STEM opportunities that inspire curiosity, innovation, and the critical thinking skills for whatever comes next.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

Best,

Ron Ottinger

Executive Director & Board Secretary

Ron Ottinger



We reached 1.15 million youth—570,000 of whom were girls—with hands-on STEM experiences



Our Leadership



**Pendred
(Penny) Noyce**
Board Chair



**Celine
Coggins**
Board Member



**Dennis
Bartels**
Board Member



**Gwynn
Hughes**
Board Member



**Reginald
McGregor**
Board Member
& Treasurer



**Teresa
Drew**
Deputy Director



**Ron
Ottinger**
Executive Director
& Board Secretary

2023 Program Impact

Through STEM Next's programs and strategic initiatives, we deployed:

\$6,416,531 in grant funding to the out-of-school-time field, positively impacting **1.15 million youth** and **85,000 afterschool and summer educators.**

This investment was paired with tools and resources, training, coaching and technical assistance that helped to transform practice—reimagining STEM learning.

Million Girls Moonshot

Launched in 2020, the Million Girls Moonshot is engaging millions more girls and youth across the United States in quality out-of-school-time (OST) STEM learning experiences.

In 2023...

The Million Girls Moonshot engaged 1.15 million youth—including 570,000 girls—in high-quality, hands-on STEM experiences through afterschool programs.

Gained Interest

Girls who participated in Million Girls Moonshot-connected programs said they were “more” or “much more” interested in STEM Careers than they had been before.

4.3 Million Youth

Cumulatively, from 2020 to 2023, the initiative reached more than 4.3 million young people, including 2.1 million girls — far surpassing the initial goal.



The Flight Crew

In 2023, we scaled the Flight Crew program nationally, expanding to serve 44 young people from 38 states. The Flight Crew are a cadre of exceptional youth in STEM.

Since the program’s inception, Flight Crew members have had the opportunity to hone their skills through leadership development programs, public speaking experiences, resume and interview coaching, access to scholarships and internships, near-peer mentoring and role model connections, and more.



In a survey of Flight Crew members about their experiences:

96%

are confident that they can be an effective advocate for others.

95%

improved their leadership skills.

96%

felt they have the tools to advocate for themselves as female/non-binary youth in STEM.

100%

said they feel like they belong in STEM and are interested in pursuing STEM careers.

The STEM Next Opportunity Fellows Network

Through the STEM Next Opportunity Fellows Network, experts contribute their knowledge, skills and expertise to support Federal agencies to expand access to STEM education, workforce development and out-of-school-time learning.

Agency Experience

Fellows experience first-hand working in a federal agency for up to four years, depending on agency needs and funding. Fellows receive training and ongoing professional learning through STEM Next, including regular conversations with leadership and other STEM and informal education experts.

13 Fellows in 2023

In 2023, 13 Fellows served across federal agencies including the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Office of the Vice President's Space Council, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Defense and AmeriCorps.



Imagine Science

In 2023, Imagine Science continued to offer STEM learning opportunities to underserved youth by partnering with community-based organizations across the country.

Working in partnership, YMCA of the USA, the National 4-H Council, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and Girls Inc. **supported 19 markets** and **surpassed 50,000 youth** served to date, including **83% from low-income households**.

Overall, youth demonstrate strong STEM outcomes: 70% saw gains in STEM interest, and **54% increased their STEM career interest**, 8 percentage points higher than youth nationally.



The program provided professional learning opportunities to educators and STEM facilitators. These efforts resulted in the development of high-quality STEM programming for youth in communities that traditionally lack access to such resources.

Corporate & Foundation Supporters

Every Dollar Counts

STEM Next is fortunate to partner with a broad cross-section of STEM leaders, investors, and philanthropists across the communities we serve. Together, we're engaging learners everywhere in high-quality afterschool and summer STEM learning opportunities.

Every \$1 donated to STEM Next makes a difference in enriching the lives of young people. We'd like to give special recognition to donors and partners who gave support at or above \$75,000 for our work in 2023.

Amgen Foundation

Anonymous

Aramco

Arconic Foundation

Bezos Family Foundation

Boeing

Broadcom Foundation

Burroughs Wellcome Fund

Center of Southwest Culture, Inc.

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

David & Lucile Packard Foundation

Einhorn Collaborative

Federation of American Scientists

Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation

Hoag Foundation

Hopper Dean Foundation

Illumina Corporate Foundation

Intel Foundation

Intel Corporation

Lemelson Foundation

Lockheed Martin

Overdeck Family Foundation

Panasonic Foundation

Qualcomm Incorporated

Ralph Wilson Foundation

Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Samueli Foundation

Takeda Pharmaceuticals

Wallace Foundation

YMCA of the USA






Financial Update

For the year ending Dec. 31, 2023



Total Income

\$8,085,124

Expenses			Percentage
	Program Services	\$12,984,919	91%
	Fundraising	\$613,889	4%
	Administrative	\$654,331	5%
Total Expenses		\$14,253,139	100%

Ending Net Assets \$4,219,142

Join Us: Get Involved

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stemnext.org

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Contact Us

STEM Next Opportunity Fund
2305 Historic Decatur Road, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92106

Phone: 619-505-9127

Email: info@stemnext.org